

Exhibit C



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**United States Patent [19]**

Palmaz

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[54] EXPANDABLE INTRALUMINAL GRAFT,  
AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
IMPLANTING AN EXPANDABLE  
INTRALUMINAL GRAFT

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 923,798, Nov. 3, 1986,  
Pat. No. 4,739,762, which is a continuation-in-part of  
Ser. No. 796,009, Nov. 7, 1985, Pat. No. 4,733,665.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... A61M 5/00; A61F 2/02

[52] U.S. Cl. ..... 606/195; 604/8;  
604/96; 604/282; 623/11

[58] Field of Search ..... 128/343, 344; 604/93,  
604/49, 282, 343, 97, 8, 283; 623/1, 12, 11;  
606/191-195, 108

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**[57] ABSTRACT**

A plurality of expandable and deformable intraluminal vascular grafts are expanded within a blood vessel by an angioplasty balloon associated with a catheter to dilate and expand the lumen of a blood vessel. The grafts may be thin-walled tubular members having a plurality of slots disposed substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the tubular members, and adjacent grafts are flexibly connected by at least one connector member.

36 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

